

Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report

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Methodology

Storage Basics

Schedule

Historical Data

Working Gas in Underground Storage Data Released July 27, 2006 at 10:30 A.M., For the Week Ending July 21, 2006

Region	Stocks (Bcf) for July 21, 2006	Stocks (Bcf) for July 14, 2006	Implied Net Change (Bcf)	Year Ago Stocks (Bcf)
East	1,525	1,509	16	1,283
West	381	384	-3	365
Producing	850	870	-20	730
Total Lower 48	2,756	2,763	-7	2,377
Region	5-Year	Difference from		
Region	(2001-2005) Average Stocks (Bcf)	5-Year Average (Percent)		
East		_		
	Stocks (Bcf)	(Percent)		
East	Stocks (Bcf) 1,247	(Percent) 22.3		

Notes and Definitions

Note: This report tracks U.S. natural gas inventories held in underground storage facilities. The weekly stocks generally are the volumes of working gas as of the report date. Changes in reported stock levels reflect all events affecting working gas in storage, including injections, withdrawals, and reclassifications between base and working gas.

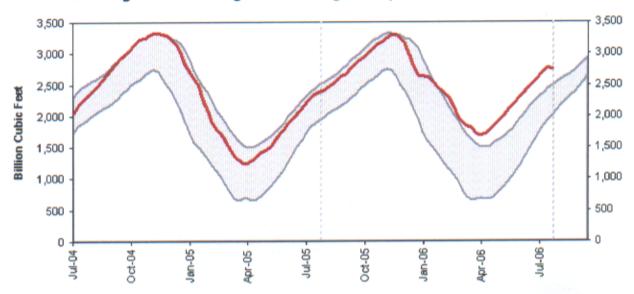
Note: The weekly storage estimates are based on a survey sample that does not include all companies that operate underground storage facilities. The sample was selected from the list of storage operators to achieve a target standard error of the estimate of working gas in storage which was no greater than 5 percent for each region. Based on a comparison of weekly estimates and monthly data from May 2002 through April 2006 estimated total working gas stocks have exhibited an average absolute error of 19 billion cubic feet, or 0.9 percent. For an expanded discussion of the relationship between the current and prior estimates, please see <u>Differences Between Monthly and Weekly Working Gas in Storage.</u>

Storage Highlights:

Working gas in storage was 2,756 Bcf as of Friday, July 21, 2006, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net decline of 7 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 379 Bcf higher than last year at this time and 490 Bcf above the 5-year average of 2,266 Bcf. In the East Region,

stocks were 278 Bcf above the 5-year average following net injections of 16 Bcf. Stocks in the Producing Region were 154 Bcf above the 5-year average of 696 Bcf after a net withdrawal of 20 Bcf. Stocks in the West Region were 58 Bcf above the 5-year average after a net drawdown of 3 Bcf. At 2,756 Bcf, total working gas is above the 5-year historical range.

Working Gas in Underground Storage Compared with 5-Year Range



Notes: A weekly record for March 8, 2002, was linearly interpolated between the derived weekly estimates that end March 1 and the initial estimate from the EIA-912 on March 15. The shaded area indicates the range between the historical minimum and maximum values for the weekly series from 2000 through 2004.

Source: Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." The dashed vertical lines indicate current and year-ago weekly periods.

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